

Abstract of the Disclosure

An information transfer mechanism including
(all or a part of) a retrieval mechanism can be
5 realized. A user mechanism converts numeric data
indicating 'information' into a uniquely
corresponding information network address, and
transmits a packet storing the address to the network.
A relay mechanism which has received the packet
10 determines the route to a host storing the
information corresponding to the information
network address stored in it, and relays the packet.
Upon receipt of the returned packet from the host,
the relay mechanism determines the route to the user
15 mechanism corresponding to the network address
stored in the return packet, and relays the return
packet. Upon receipt of the return packet from the
relay mechanism, the user mechanism receives the
information stored in the return packet.